

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 03158 161608Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----170240Z 020925 /61
R 161520Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4304
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3158

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, EC
SUBJECT: BUCARAM CONSTITUTIONALLY ALLOWED TO RUN

REF: QUITO 2837

1. THE SECOND OF THE COMMISSIONS DRAFTING ALTERNATIVE CONSTITUTIONS VOTED, ON MAY 4, TO RECONFIRM THE MINIMAL PRESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF 1945, THEREBY ALLOWING THE CANDIDACY OF POPULAR AND CONTROVERSIAL ASSAD BUCARAM. THE COMMISSION HAD BEEN CONSIDERING REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO BE OF ECUADOREAN PARENTAGE AND POSSESS A UNIVERSITY DEGREE, BOTH OF WHICH WERE IMPEDIMENTS FOR BUCARAM. COUPLED WITH A FIRST COMMISSION DECISION NOT TO INCLUDE A PROVISIO ON DUAL NATIONALITY, BUCARAM'S CANDIDACY WILL BE ALLOWED UNDER EITHER CONSTITUTION SELECTED IN THE UPCOMING REFERENDUM.

2. THE SECOND COMMISSION ALSO APPROVED, ALONG WITH THE FIRST, A MEASURE THAT REQUIRES THE PRESIDENT TO BE ELECTED BY MAJORITY VOTE. WHILE MOST POLITICIANS CONCEDE AT THIS POINT THAT BUCARAM COULD WIN A PLURALITY ON THE FIRST BALLOTING, ANTI-BUCARAM FORCES ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE THAT THEY COULD GANG UP AND DEFEAT HIM IN THE SECOND ROUND OF VOTING.

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COMMENT: THE SURPRISING MOVE BY THE SECOND COMMISSION HAS PREVENTED THE UPCOMING CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM FROM BECOMING A PRELIMINARY TEST OF BUCARAM'S VOTING. IT ALSO MAY HAVE FORCED THE MILITARY TO THINK ABOUT HOW TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE BUCARAM PROBLEM MONTHS BEFORE ANTICIPATED. THEY MUST NOW BEGIN WEIGHING THEIR PLEDGE TO RETURN THE GOVERNMENT TO CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER AGAINST THEIR WELL-KNOWN ANTIPATHY TOWARD

BUCARAM.
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CANDIDATES, COMMITTEES, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUITO03158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770174-0186
Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770553/aaaabtjh.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e357be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 QUITO 2837
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2504904
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BUCARAM CONSTITUTIONALLY ALLOWED TO RUN
TAGS: PINT, EC, (BUCARAM, ASSAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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